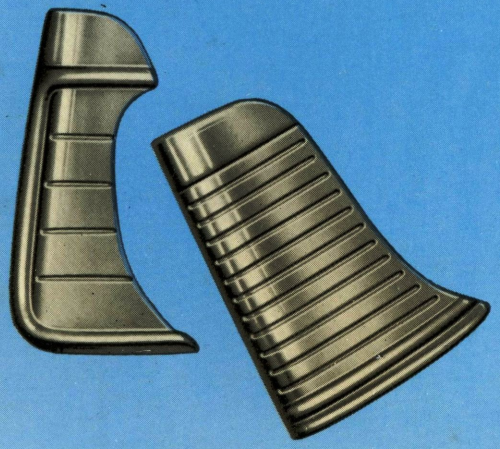
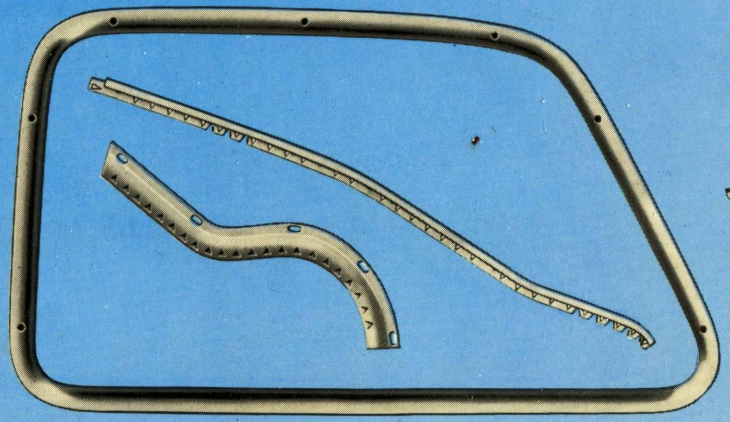
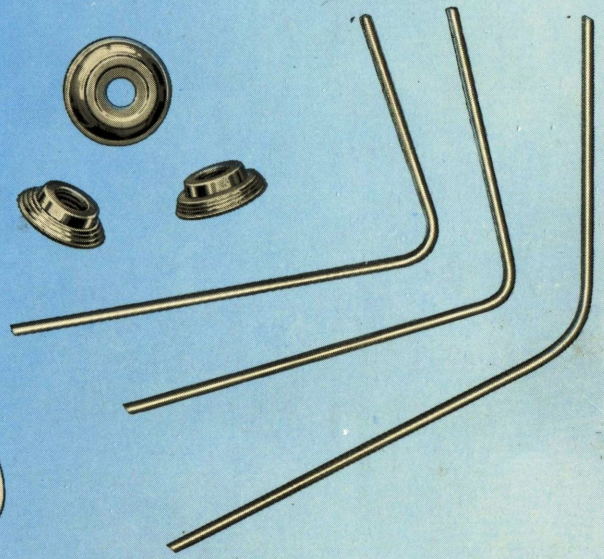
THE RANDALL COMPANY







A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE RANDALL COMPANY

Among the many diversified industries that flourish in Cincinnati, few concerns can claim so many years of continuous and successful operation as The Randall Company.

In 1858 the J. D. Randall Company was established for the purpose of manufacturing machinery for the production of harness and general leather goods. In 1905, after being privately owned and operated for 47 years, the Company was incorporated. The name was changed to The Randall Company in 1929.

Shortly after the end of World War I, a new manufacturing division for the production of automotive body specialties was formed within the Company. Today all the automobile and many of the truck manufacturers are buying these products from Randall with the result that this division now represents over 90 percent of the Company's business. These specialties now include such items as stainless steel trim, drip mouldings, headlining retainers, panel binders, fender gravel shields, door handle escutcheons, window and windshield garnish mouldings, weatherstrip retainers, ventilator air valves and many other items in rolled sections and welded assemblies.

Through the years, the Company has also made a variety of other products. During the thirties, such items as office supplies, awning ventilators, pneumatic staple guns and felt weather stripping were manufactured.

At the outbreak of World War II, all normal activities ceased abruptly and the Company secured contracts for the production of war materials, ranging from small precision equipment for the Air Corps to the machining of tank track parts. Changing to this type of production required conversion to a new operation and almost complete retooling of the plant.

When hostilities ceased, the Company resumed production of its basic lines. An expansion program which was launched at that time is still being carried out. Additions were made to the original building, an adjacent building was purchased, and much new machinery and equipment were acquired. Even this substantial increase in manufacturing facilities proved insufficient and during 1950, to meet the ever-growing demand for Randall products, a new, completely modern plant was built and put in operation at Wilmington, Ohio.

For many years, Randall facilities have included a well-equipped testing laboratory to insure constant maintenance of product quality; a design engineering department; and a complete, thoroughly modern machine shop for producing machines, dies and special equipment.

For the convenience of its customers, the Company maintains a Detroit Office staffed by men with broad experience in the automotive field who are readily available for consultation and service. To insure the most efficient coordination of activities, the General Offices in Cincinnati are in constant communication by leased wire teletype with the Detroit Office and the Wilmington Plant.

It should be noted that although automotive body specialties now represent the major part of the business, the manufacture of leatherworking machinery has continued. Engineering skills acquired through nearly a century of experience and research have given Randall an international reputation for advanced design and quality production in this field.

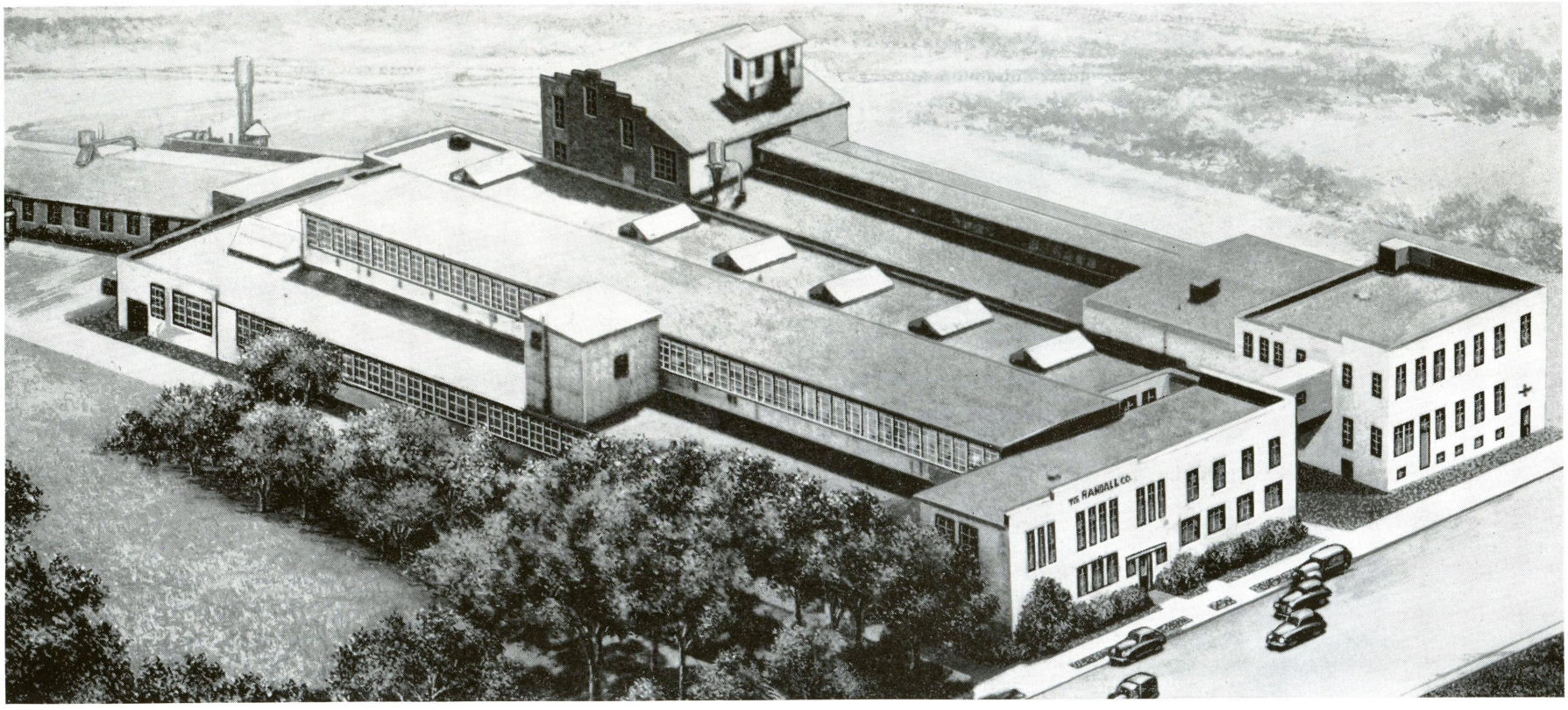
In the following pages you will find a series of photographs illustrating the varied operations of the Company at both the Cincinnati and the Wilmington Plants.

THE RANDALL COMPANY

Plant No. 1, Cincinnati, Ohio

Sales Office, Detroit, Michigan

Plant No. 2, Wilmington, Ohio



Air view of Plant No. 1 and General Offices, 5000 Spring Grove Avenue, Cincinnati 32, Ohio

THE RANDALL CO.

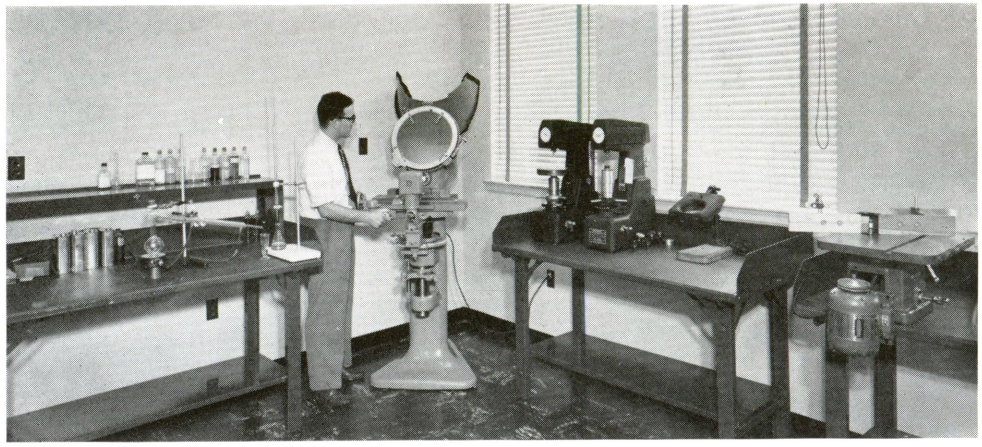
THE RANDALL CO.
The Line Of Champions

General Offices

First Aid Room

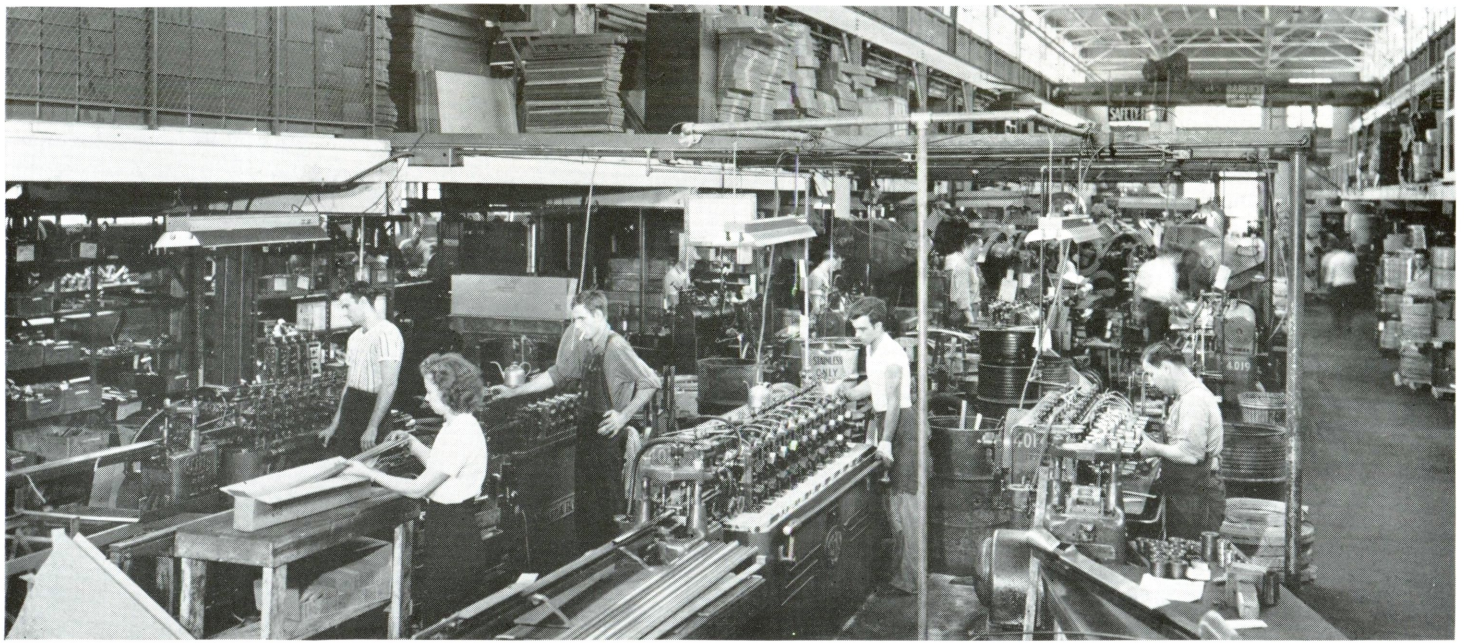
Engineering Department
Offices

Engineering Department
Drafting and Design



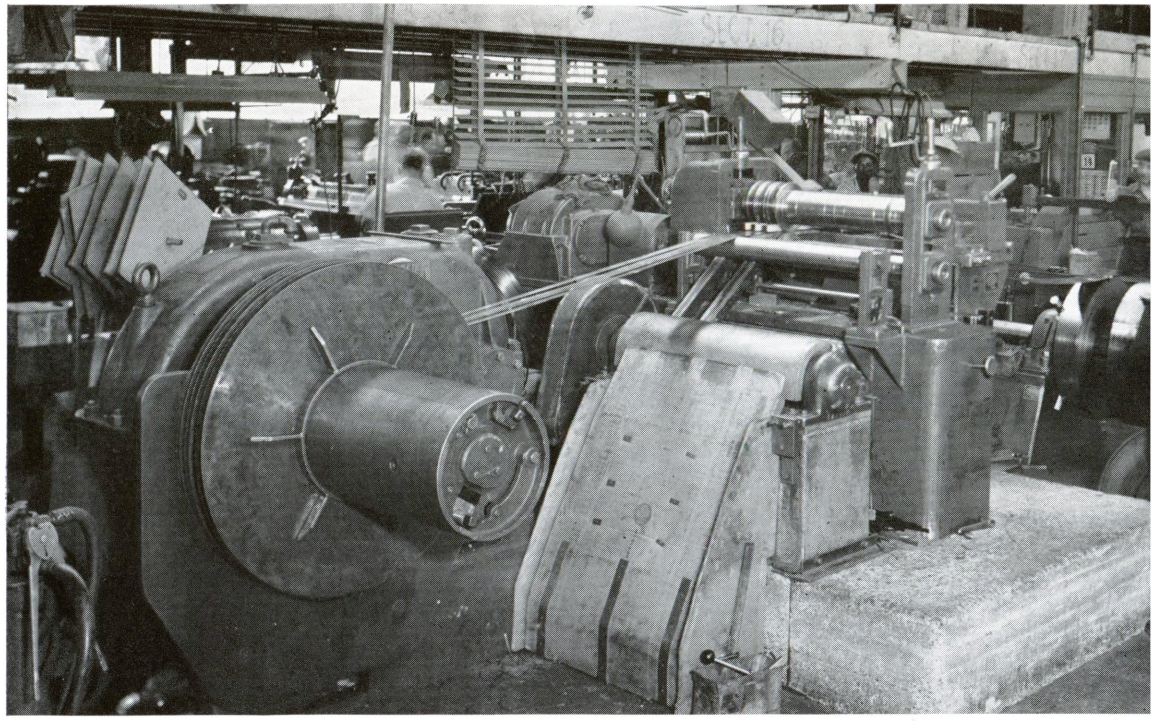
Experimental and Testing Laboratory

Center Bay, Plant No. 1
General View



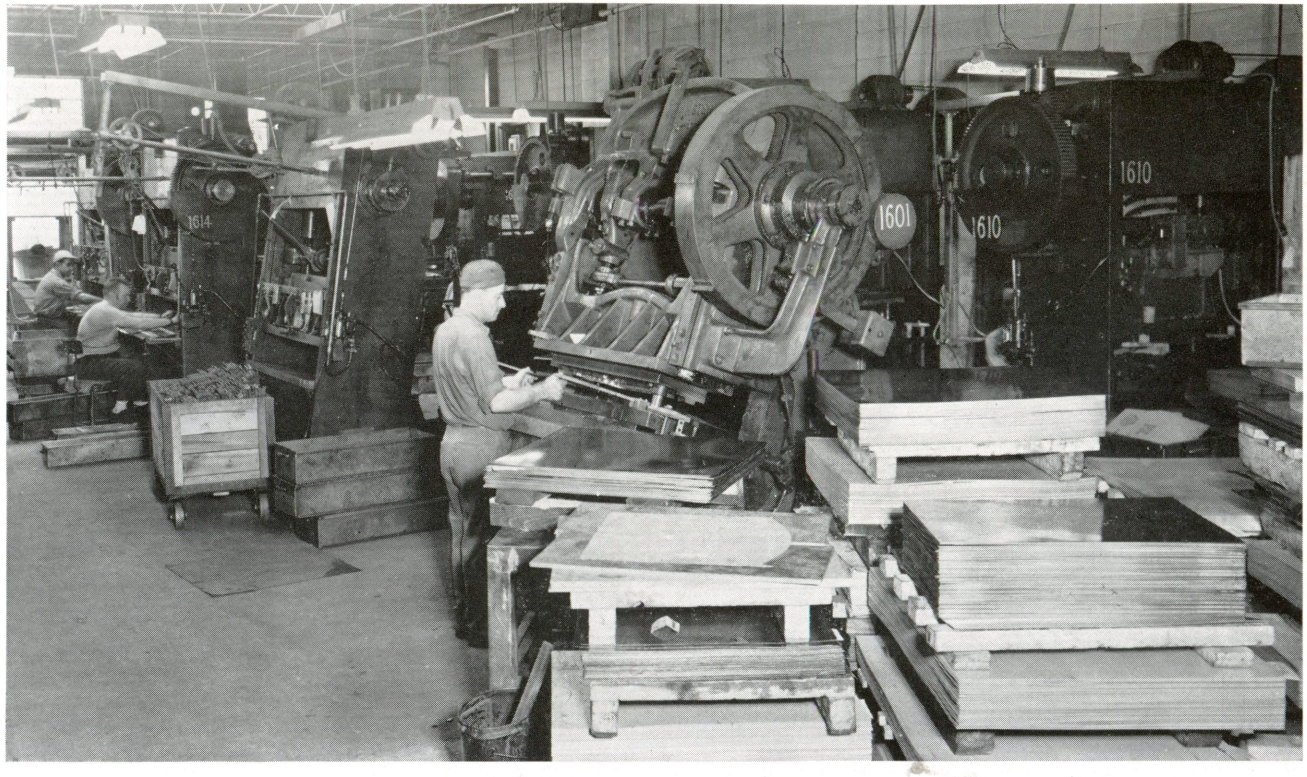
Center Bay, Plant No. 1
Trim Moulding Rolling
Department

Center Bay, Plant No. 1
Steel Stocks and Steel
Slitting Department
(upper left)

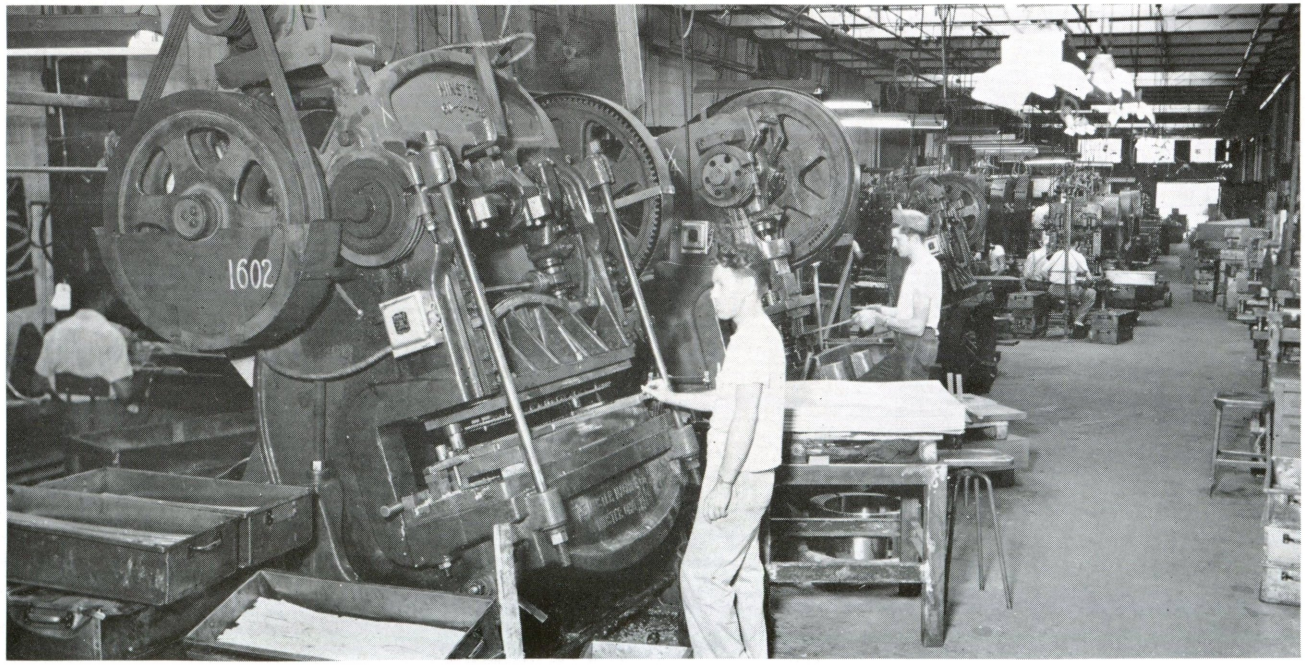


Center Bay, Plant No. 1
Steel Slitting
Department

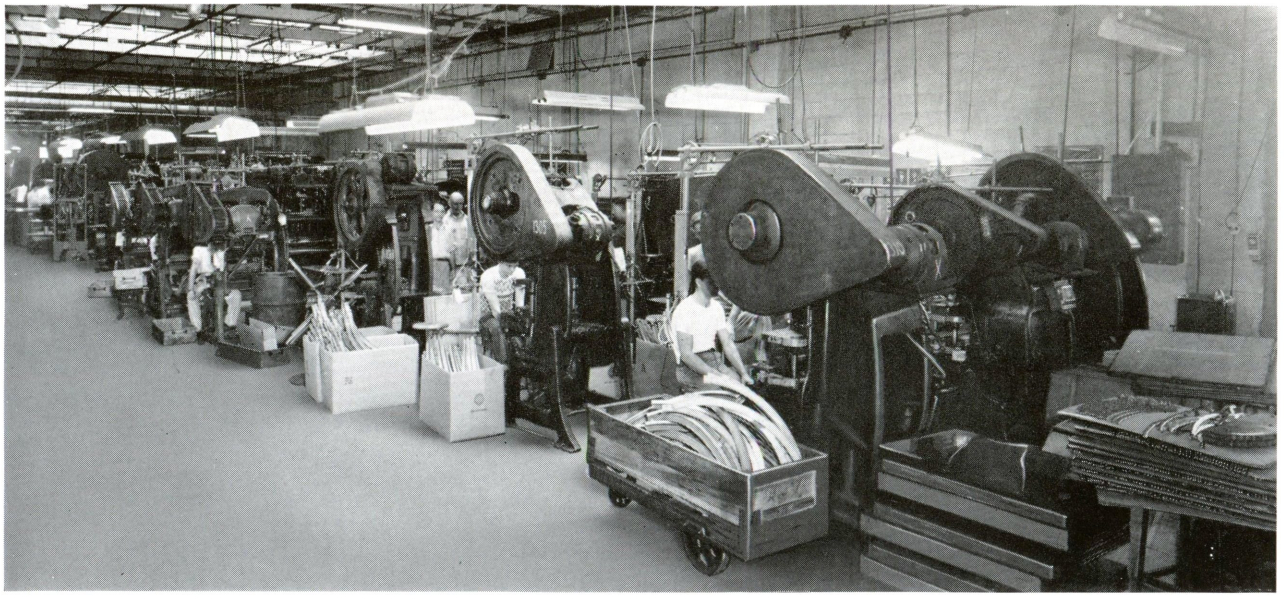
Center Bay, Plant No. 1
Sheet Steel Shearing
Department



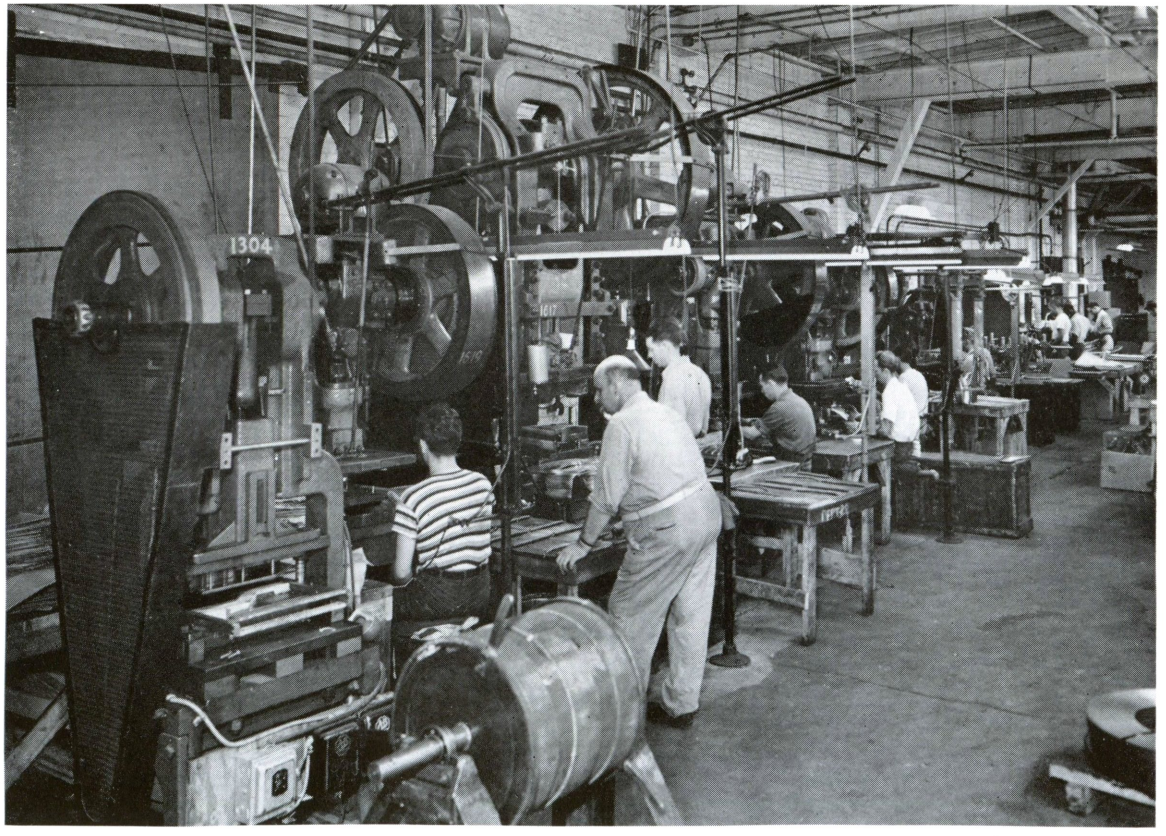
Stamping Department
(North section)



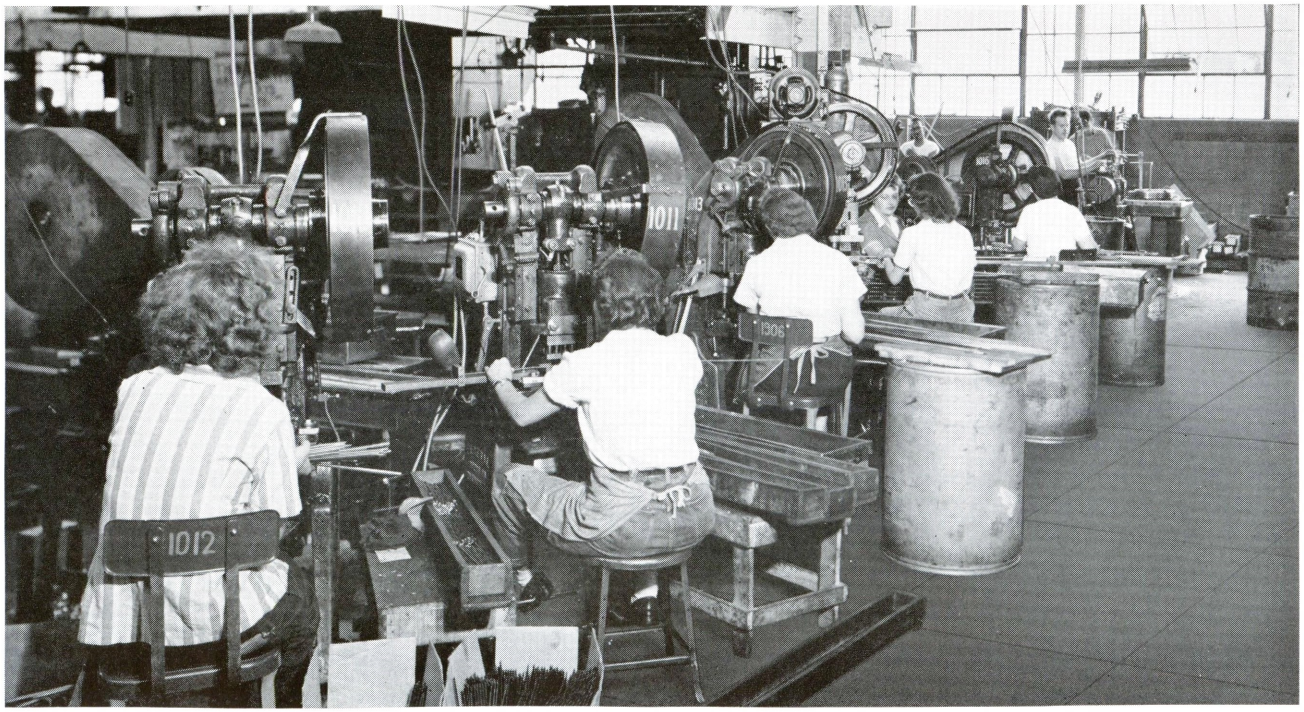
Stamping Department
(South section)



Punch Press Department
Small Stampings

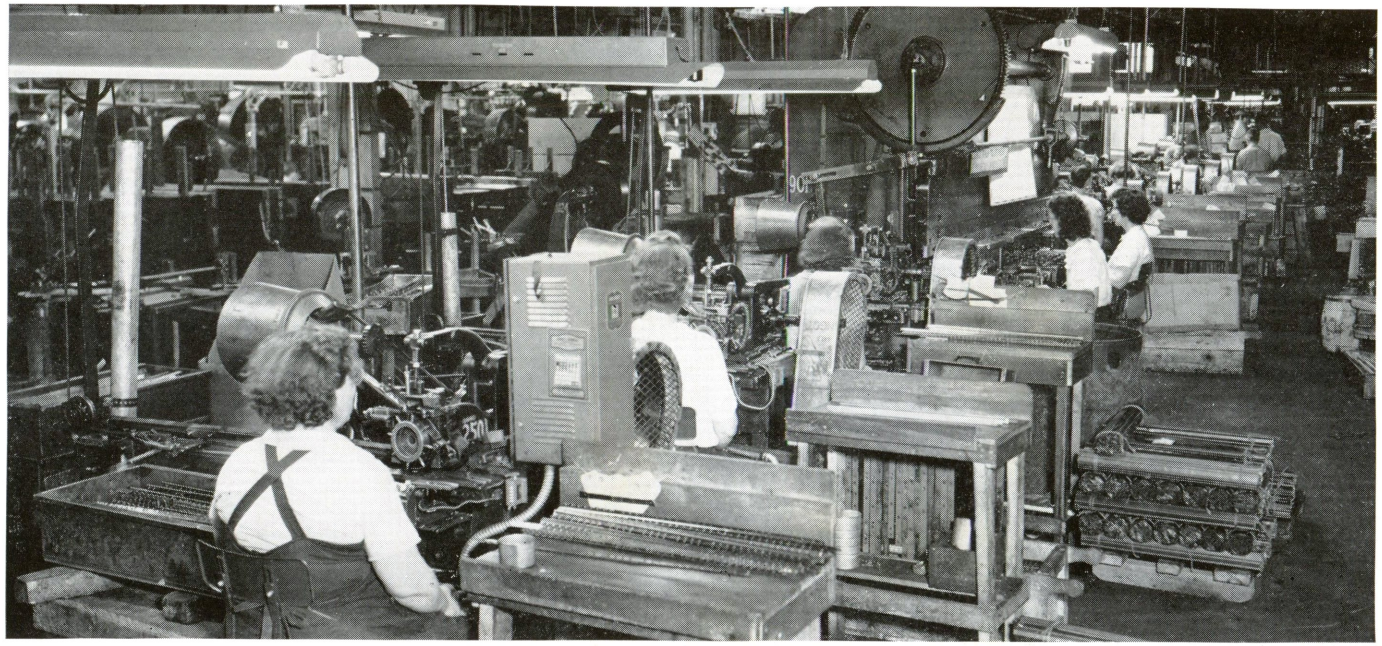


Stainless Steel Fabricating
Department

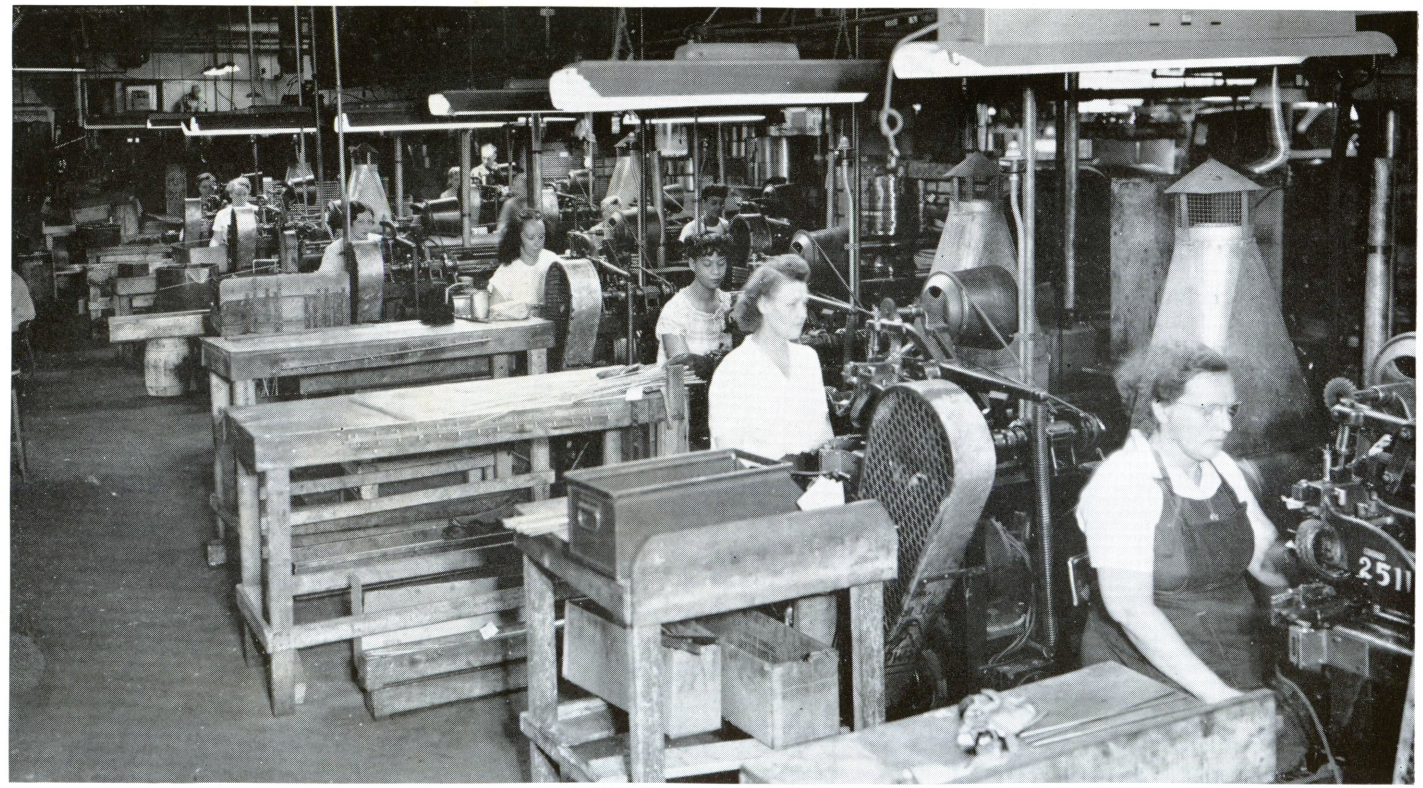


Moulding Department
End Forming

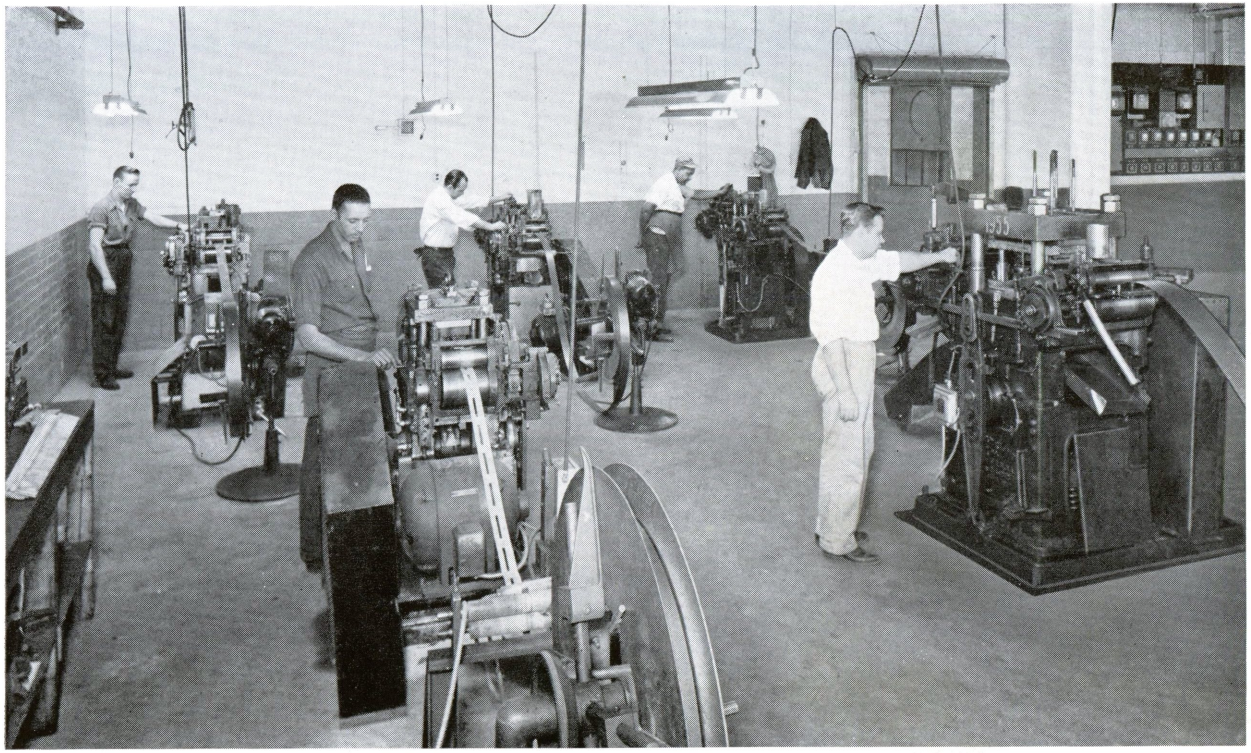
Power Forming Machines



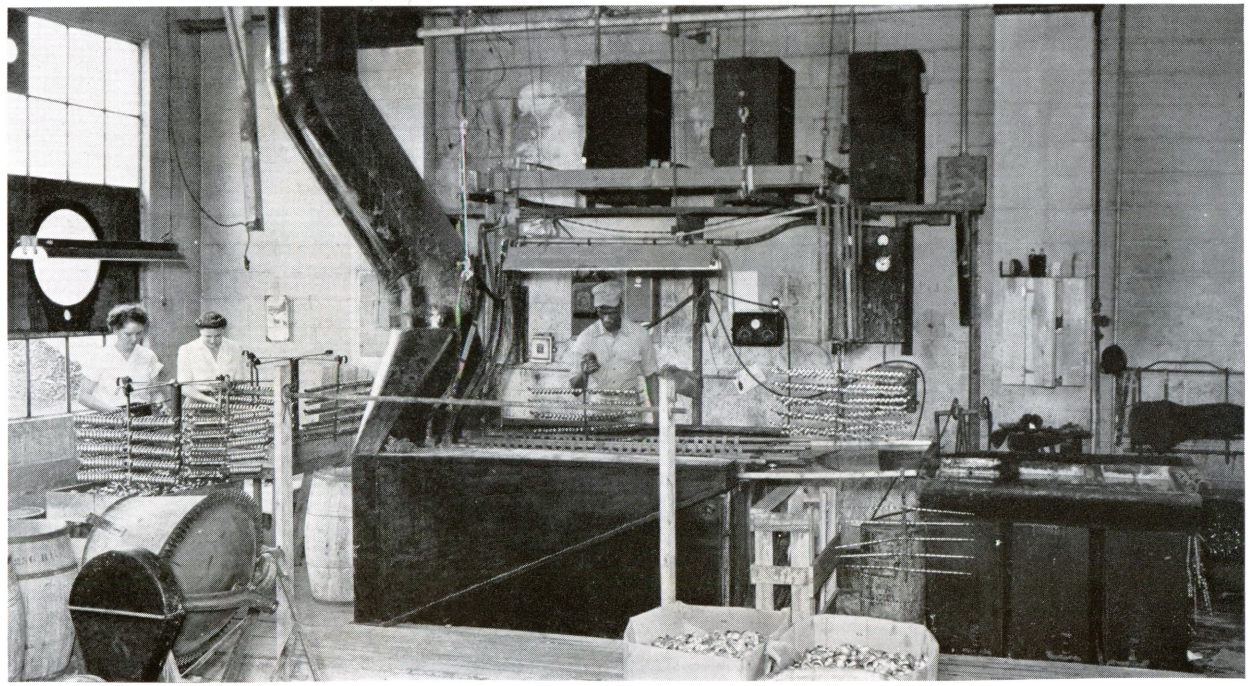
Automatic Nail Welding
Department
Panel Bindings



Automatic Nail Welding
Department
Stainless Steel Mouldings



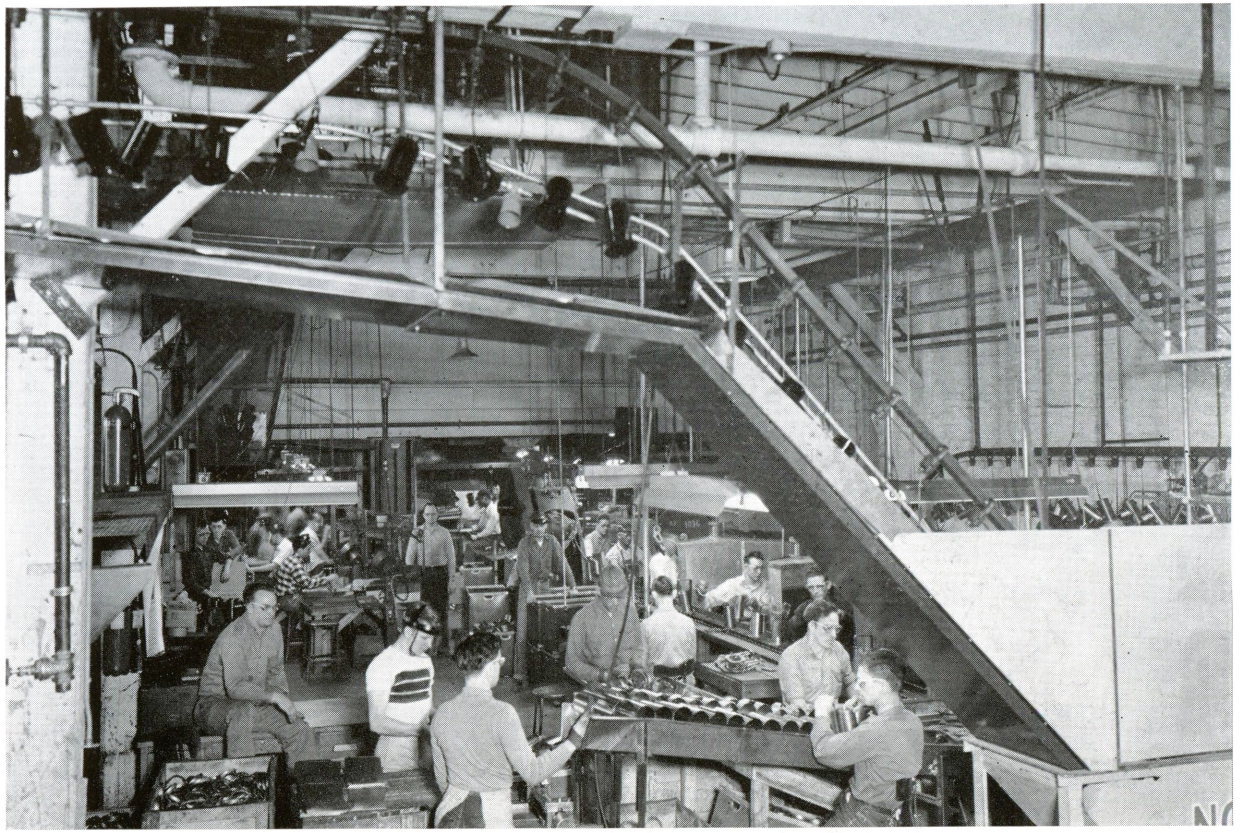
Automatic Press
Department



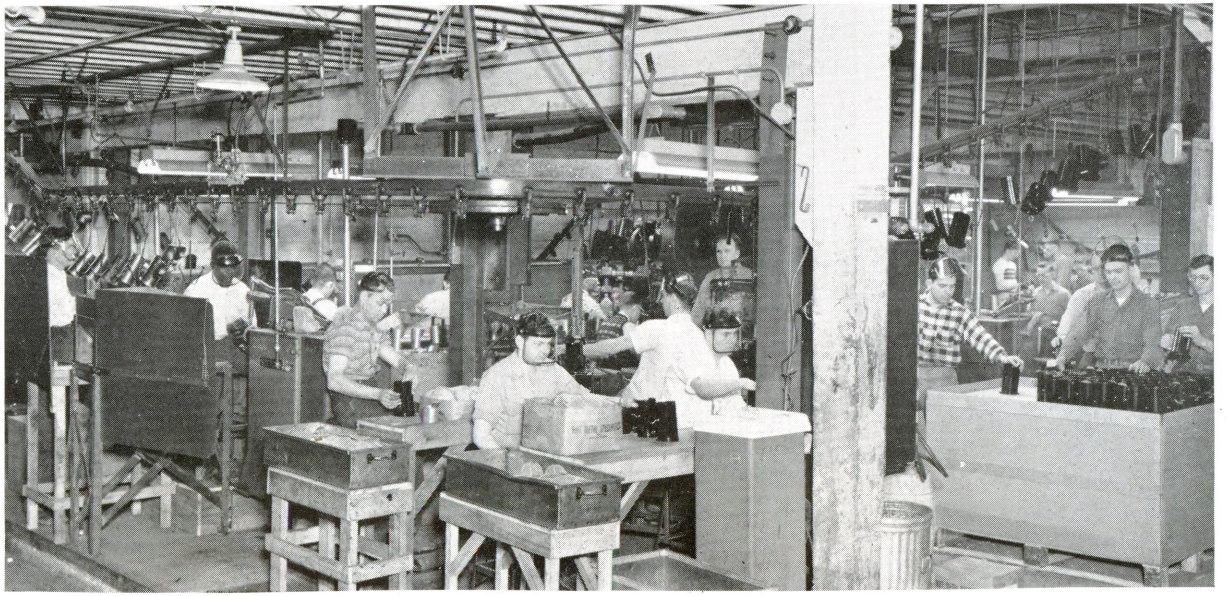
Electro-polishing Department
Escutcheons

Hand Finishing
Stainless Steel
Trim Mouldings

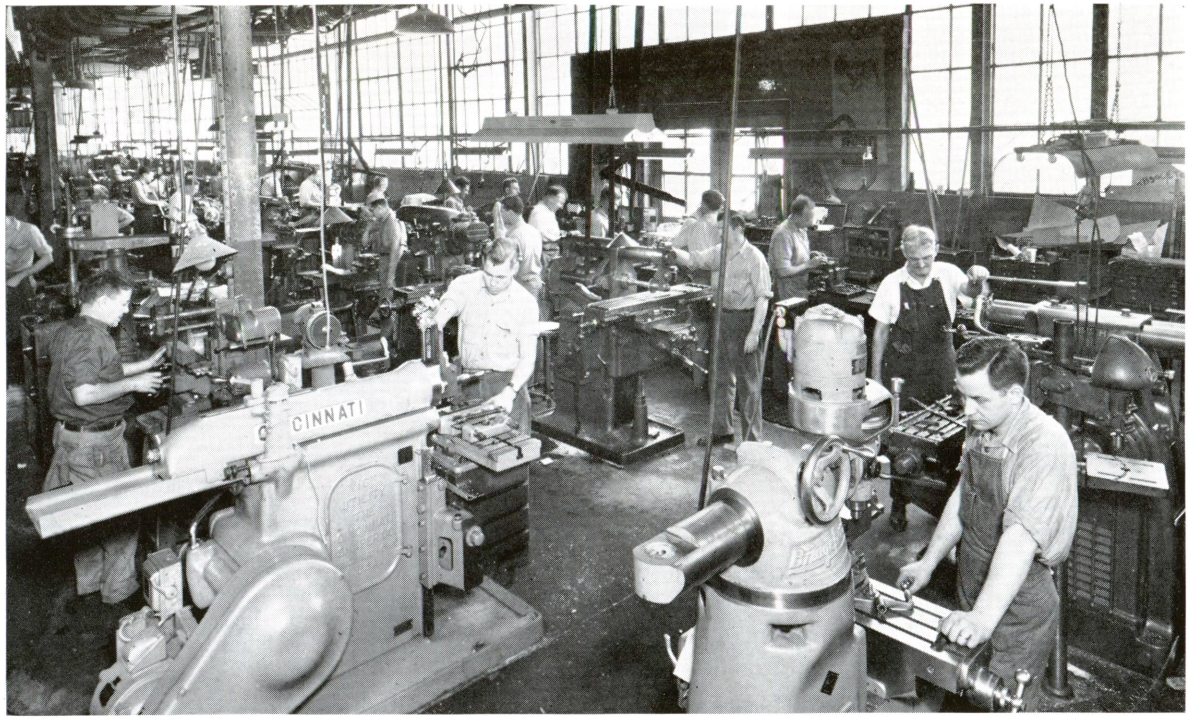
Automatic Finishing
Stainless Steel
Trim Mouldings



Ventilator Air Vent
Department
Enameling Operation
in foreground

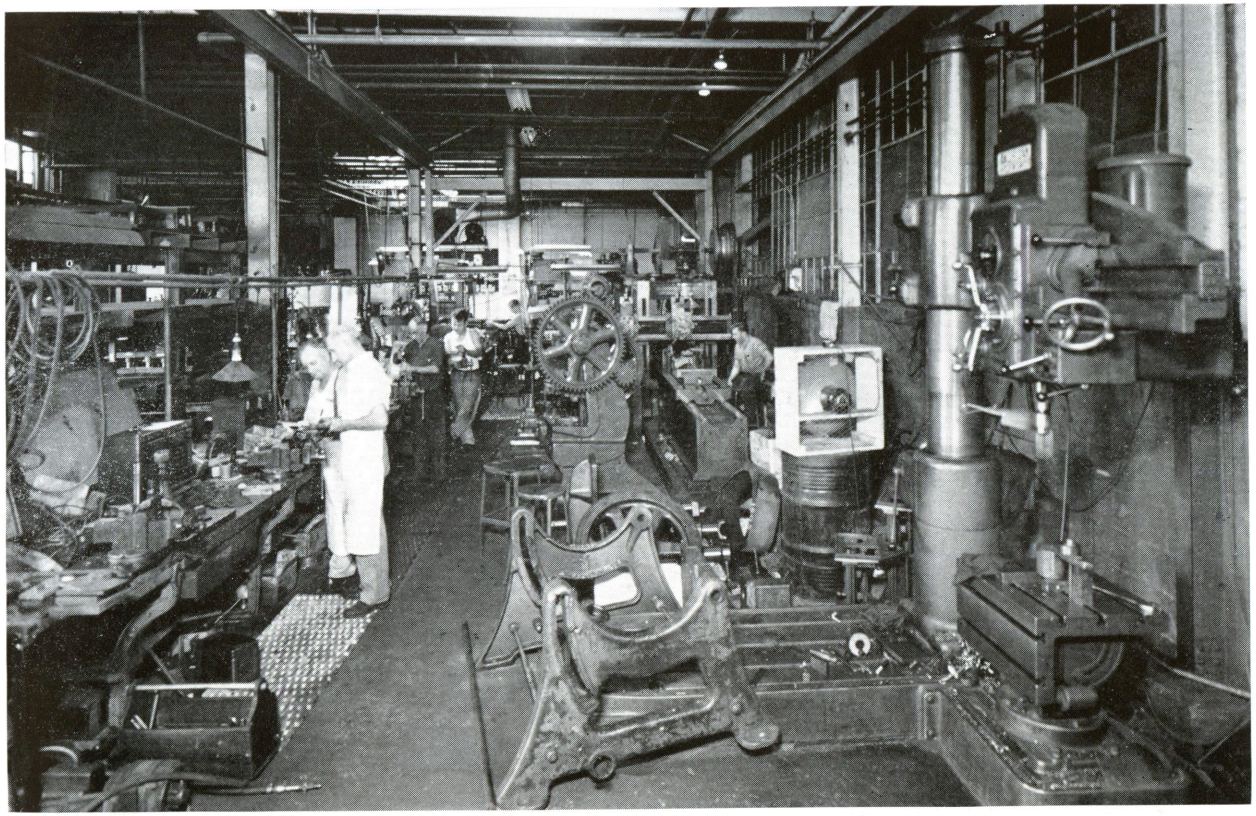


Ventilator Air Vent
Department
Assembling



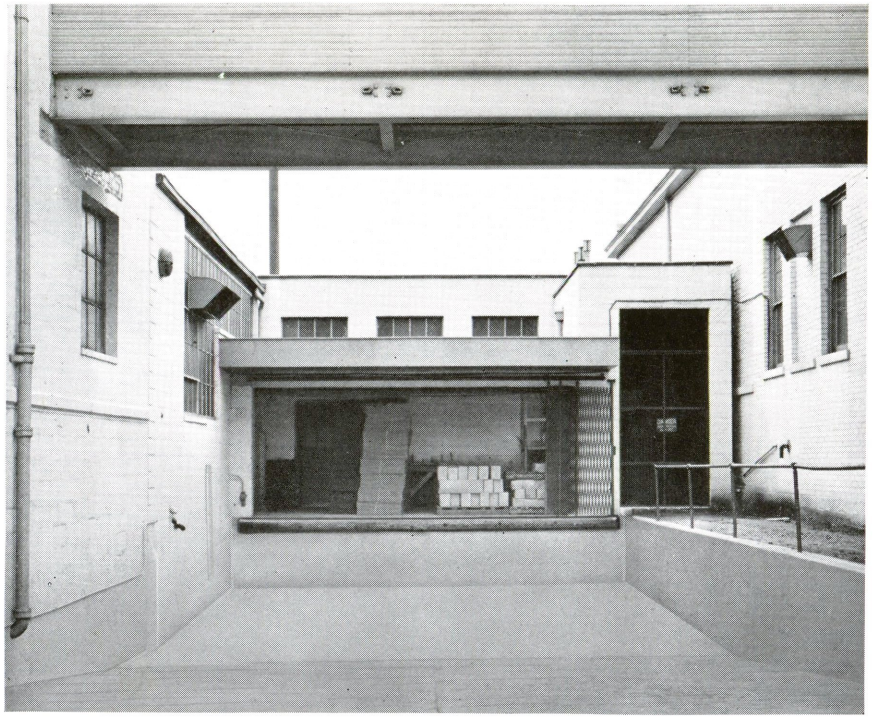
Complete Machine Shop for the production of machines, dies, tools and special equipment (South end)

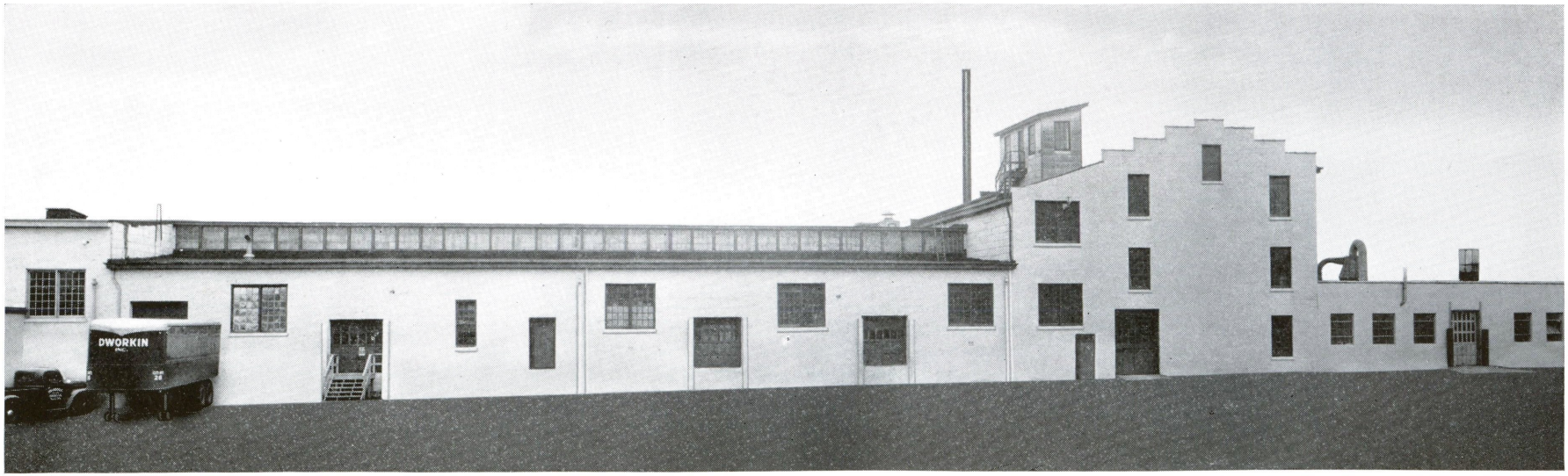
Complete Machine Shop (North end)



Machine Shop
Maintenance and
Repair Section

Packing and Shipping
Department





Ample Facilities for Shipping and Receiving
Loading Docks and Shipping Doors shown above

PLANT NO. 2, WILMINGTON, OHIO

This plant, completed in July 1950, stands in a rural setting near the city limits of Wilmington, a town of approximately 6000 population. The single story building, designed specifically for Randall operations, is completely functional and modern in every detail.

This plant is now providing employment for a large number of residents of Wilmington and the surrounding countryside.

On the following pages are photographs of this plant, taken during the first days of operation. At that time much machinery and equipment was yet to be installed.

THE WORK-STUDY PROGRAM AT WILMINGTON

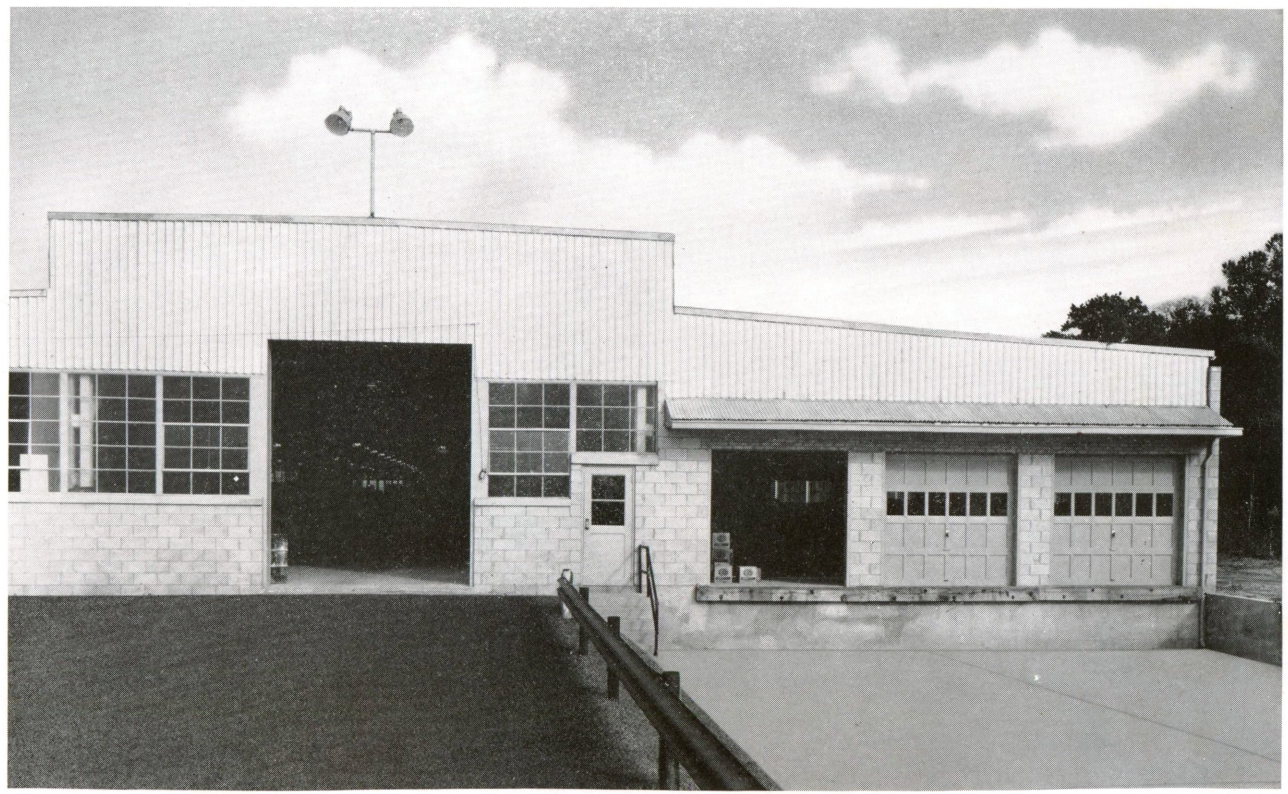
Through a work-study plan established by the cooperative effort of The Randall Company and Wilmington College, up to 250 outstanding students will be able to earn all or most of their college expenses and at the same time gain valuable shop experience as regular Randall employees. As emphasized by Dr. Marble, President of the College, work is considered to be a vital part of general education at Wilmington.

Briefly, under the plan, the student's time is divided equally between classes and work at Randall. This is accomplished by pairing the students on each job, one of them working Monday, Wednesday and Friday; the other, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. Each attends classes on the alternate days.

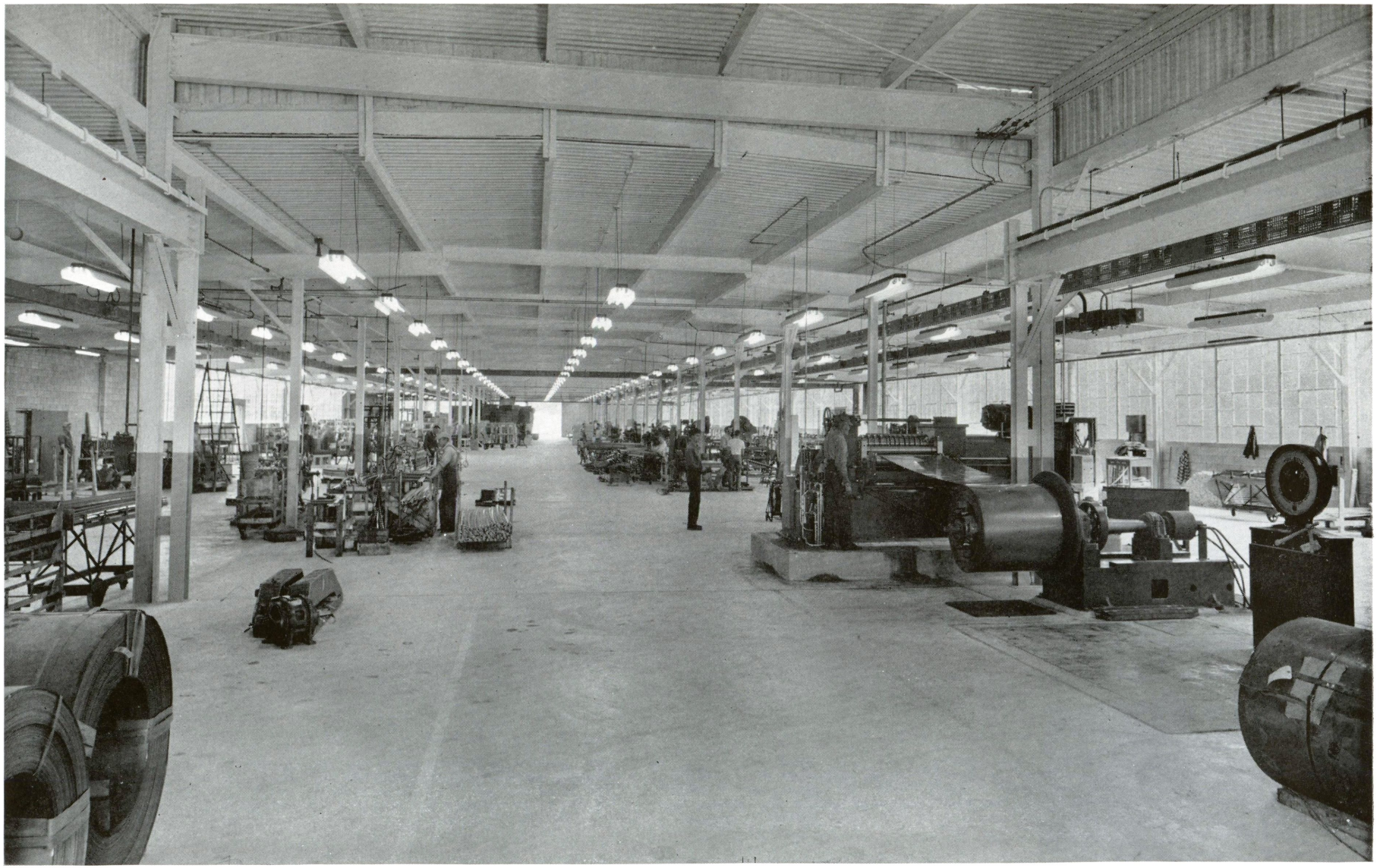
This cooperative plan is unique in that the participants are full-time resident students living on the campus. They participate in regular campus activities and enroll in any course of their choice. Thus the cultural and social facilities of the campus are available to them the year 'round, and they are not expected to leave the campus for their employment.

In effect the program constitutes an experiment in cooperative education. The Randall Company expects to show that by graduation day, students trained under the new plan will have acquired experience that will enable them to offer superior qualifications to their future employers. The Company also hopes to prove that, furnished with proper incentives, college workers will not find factory production work boring, but instead will contribute the fresh, creative thinking essential to progress in any business.

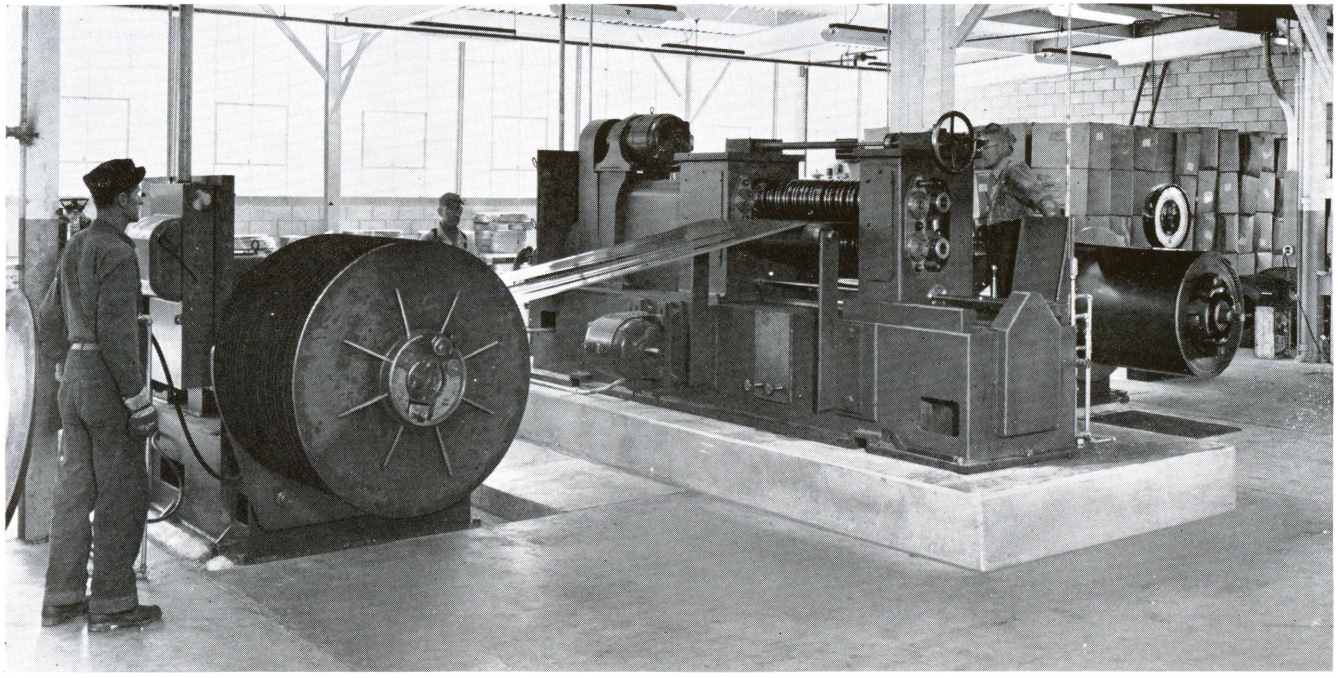
Exterior View of Plant
at Wilmington, Ohio



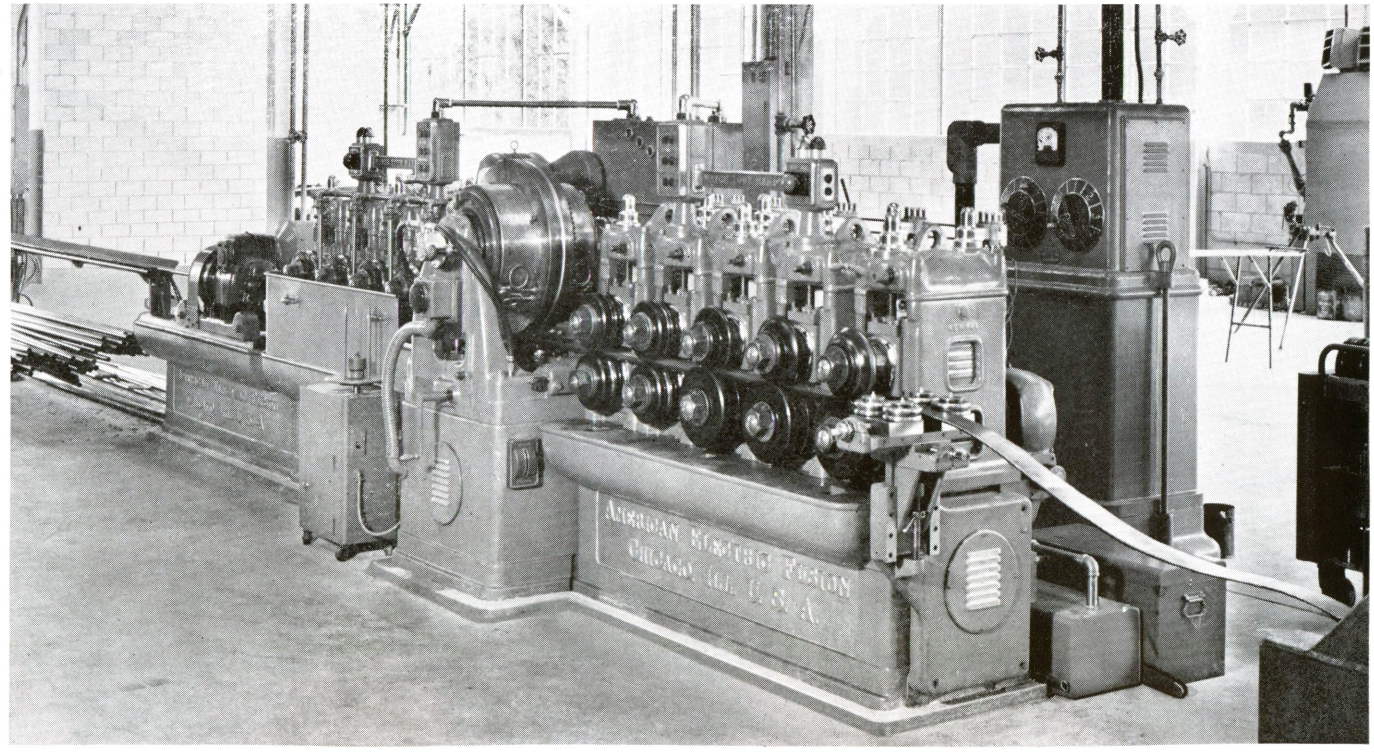
Loading Dock and Entrance
to Craneway for handling
heavy shipments



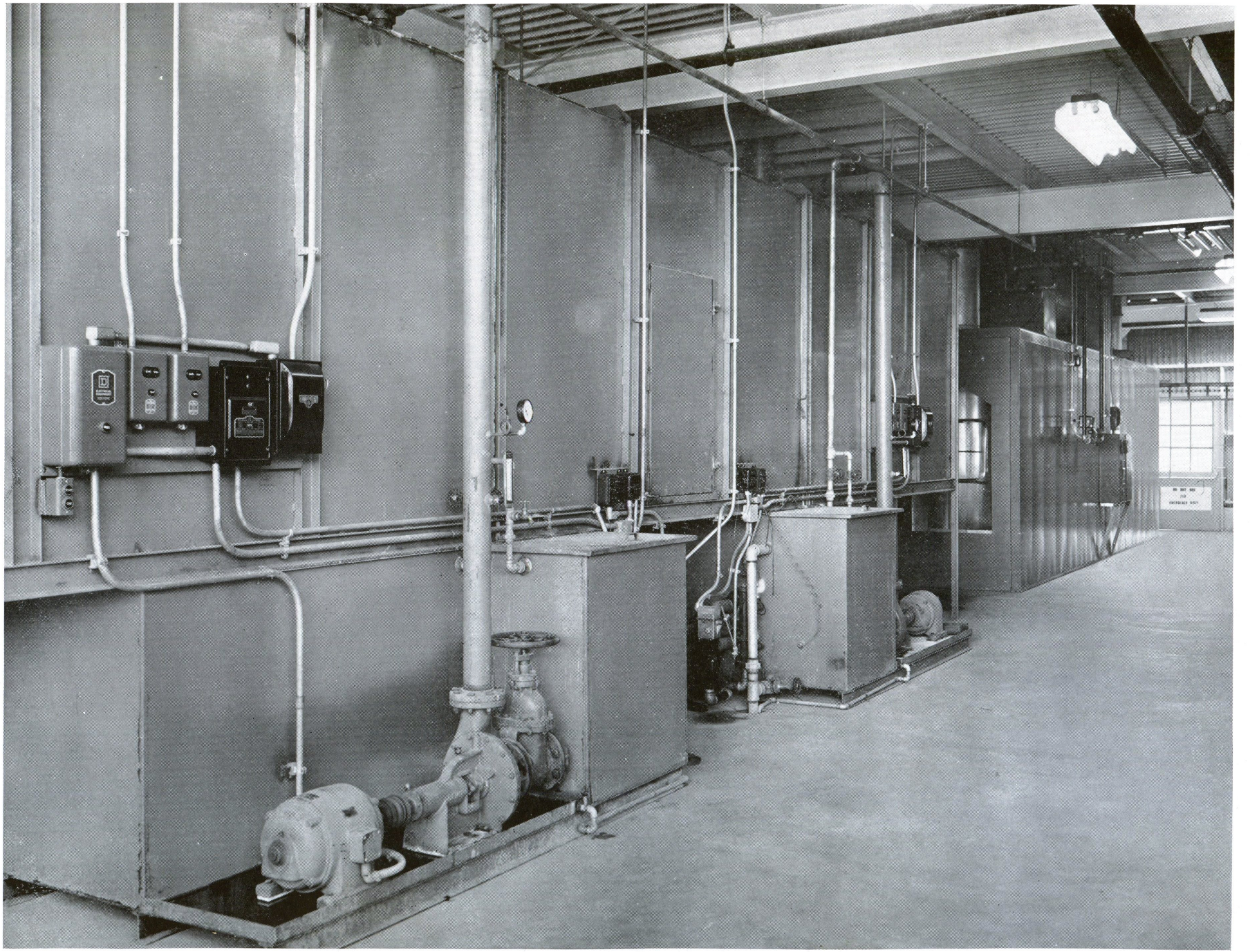
Interior View of Main Building



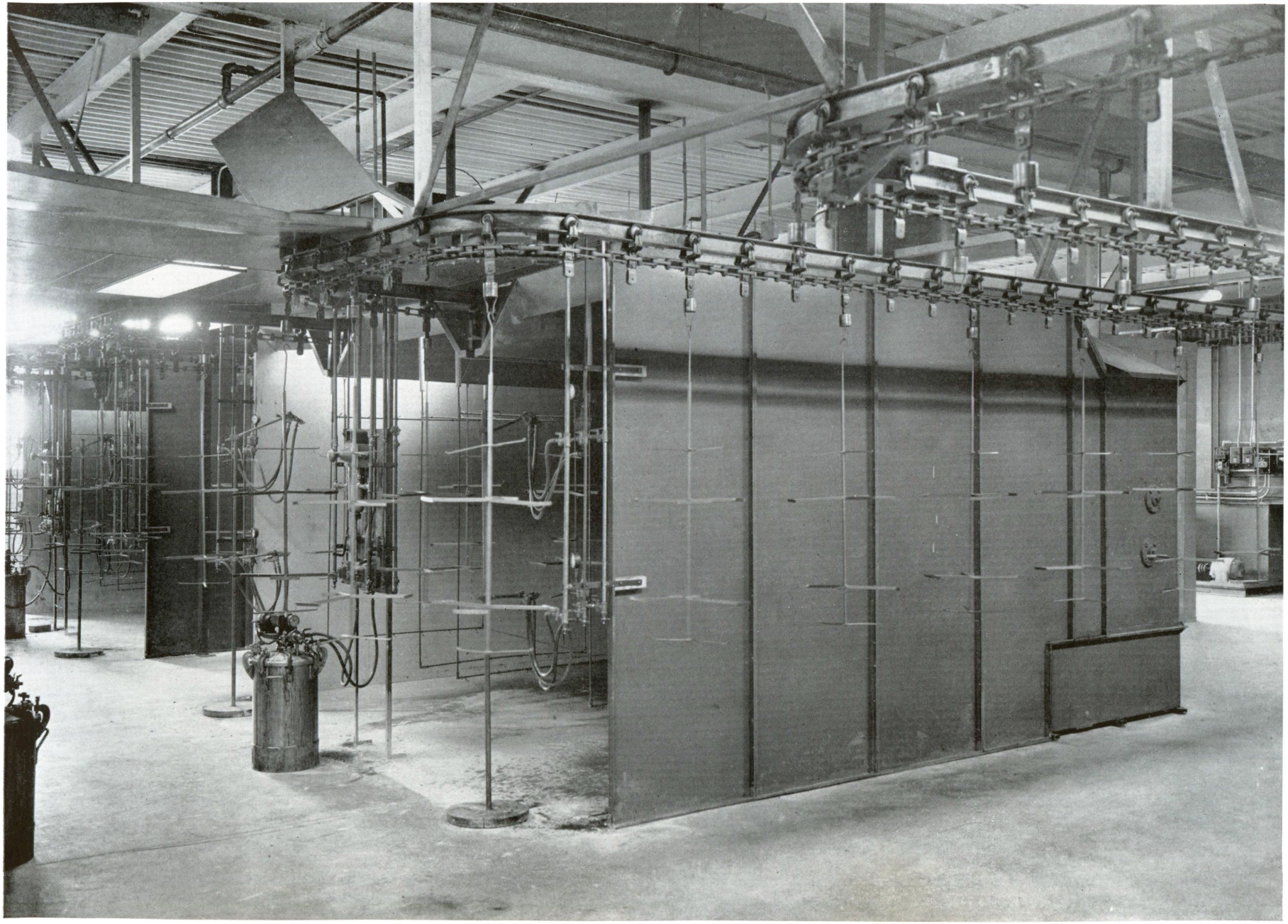
Steel Slitter. Capable of handling coils up to 15,000 lbs.



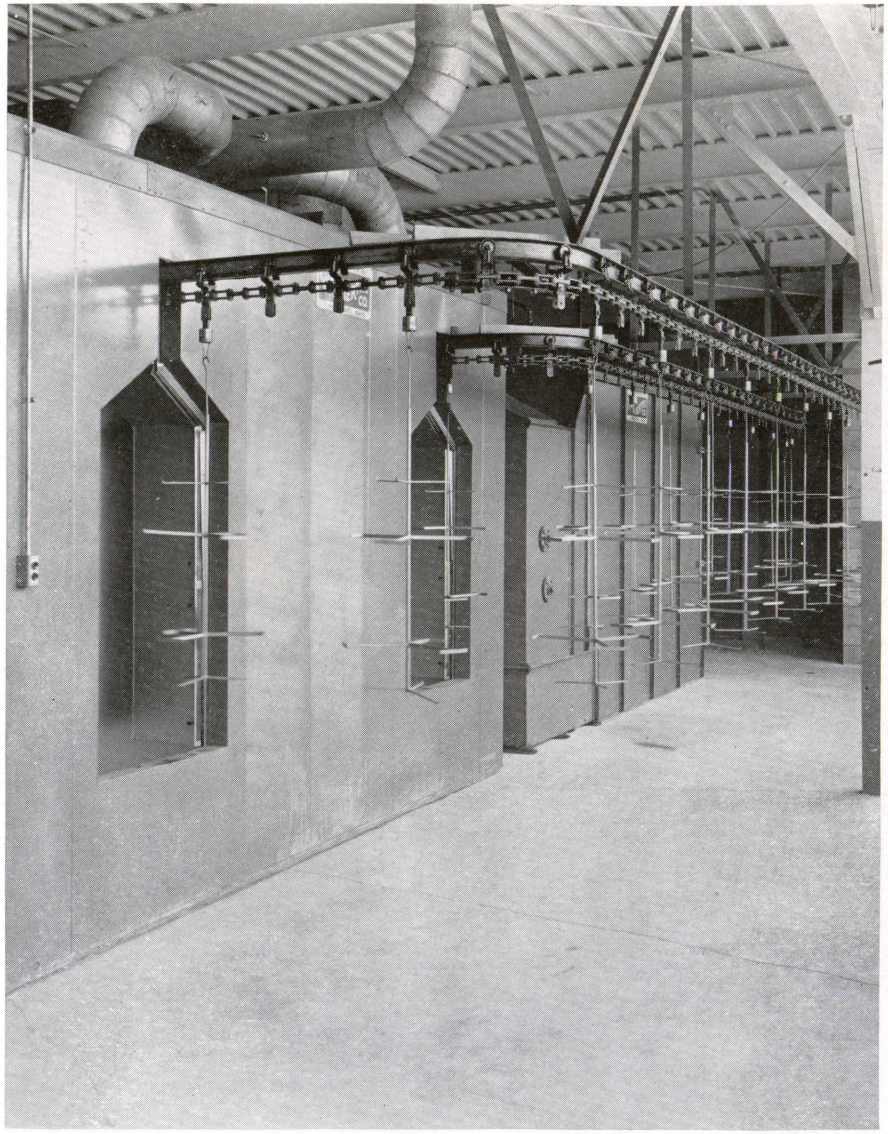
Tube Mill
for continuous production
of welded steel tubing



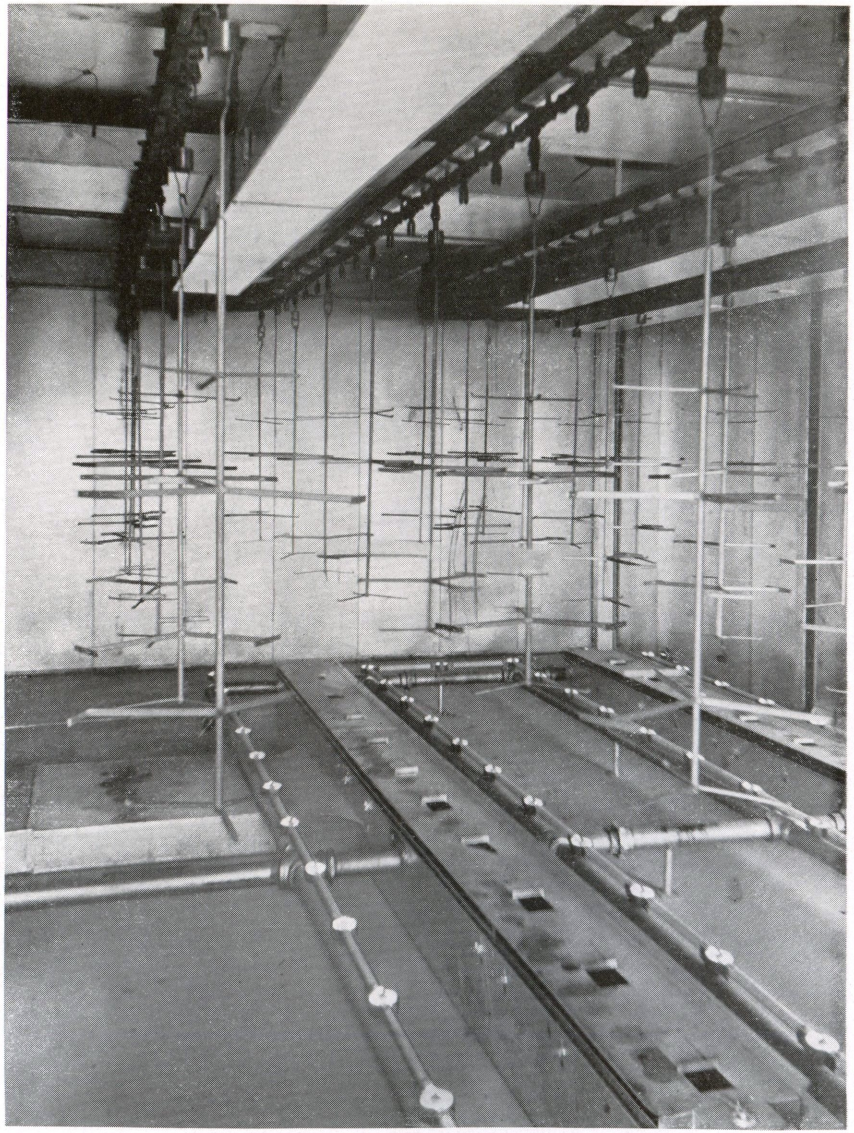
Modern Metal Finishing Department — Cleaning and Drying Units



Modern Metal Finishing Department — Automatic Spray Coating Units



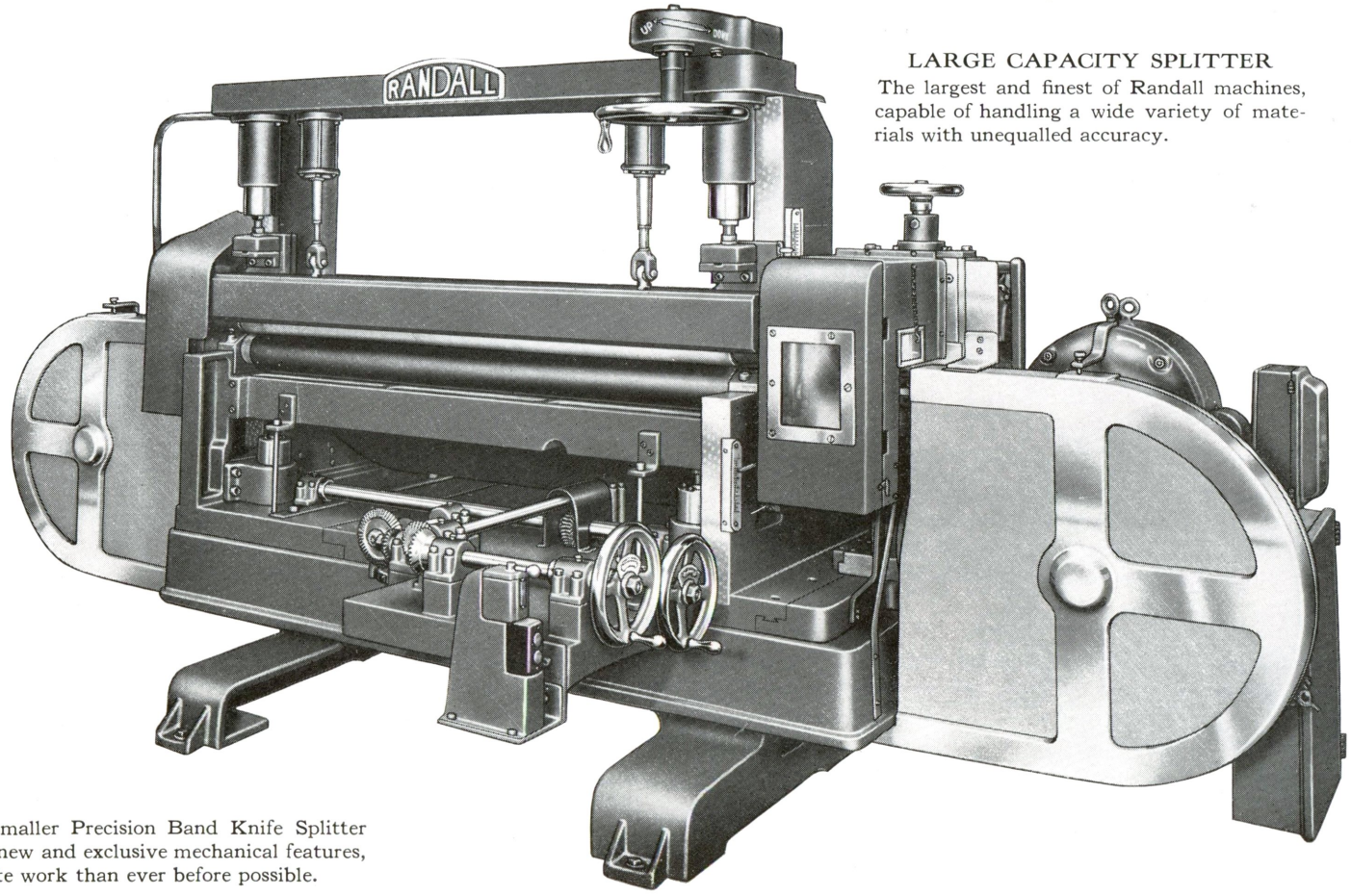
Modern Metal Finishing Department
Exterior View of Baking Ovens



Modern Metal Finishing Department
Interior View of Baking Oven

THE LEATHER WORKING MACHINERY DIVISION

This Division has operated continuously since the Company was founded in 1858. Engineering and manufacturing skills acquired throughout the years have made possible the development of an outstanding line of leatherworking machines, ranging from the large capacity splitter (below) to the small, compact round edge trimmer shown on the next page. Today Randall enjoys an enviable reputation for specialization and advanced design in machinery used by manufacturers of leather, felt, cork and foam rubber products.



LARGE CAPACITY SPLITTER

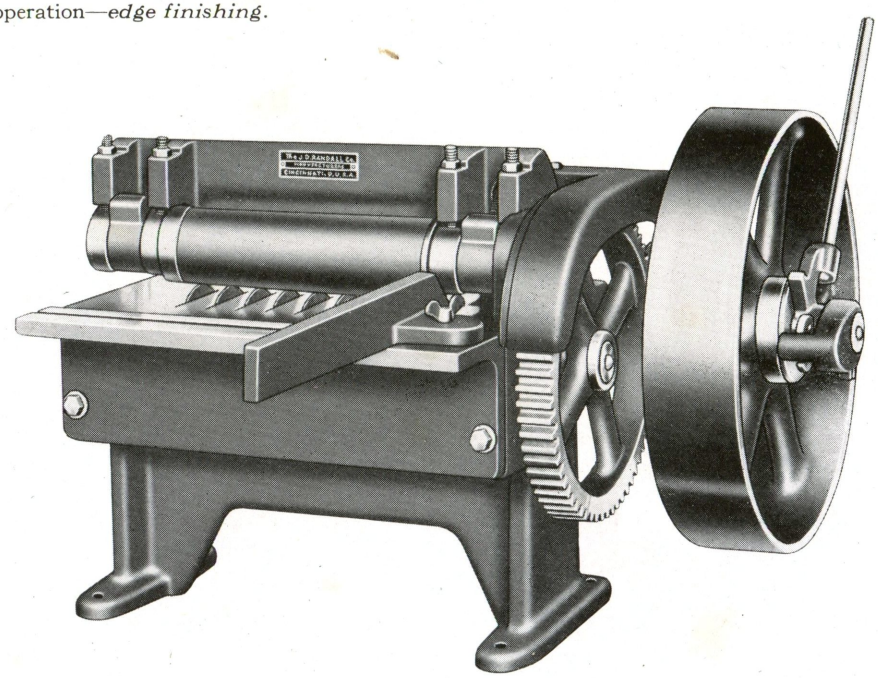
The largest and finest of Randall machines, capable of handling a wide variety of materials with unequalled accuracy.

Randall also makes a smaller Precision Band Knife Splitter which, because of many new and exclusive mechanical features, does faster, more accurate work than ever before possible.

Three more of the extensive line of Leatherworking Machines

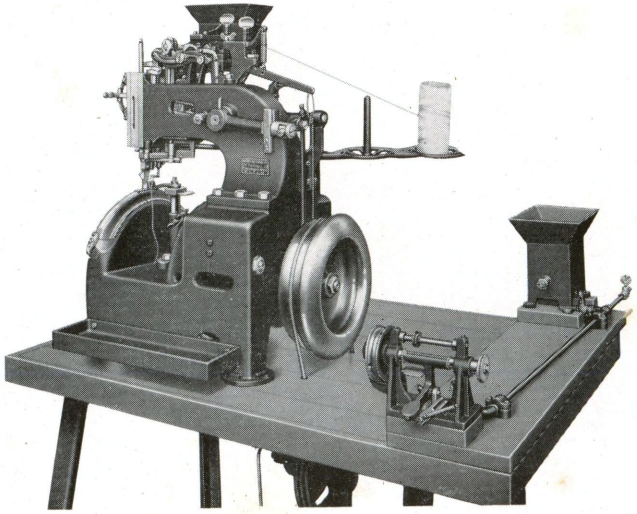
ROTARY EDGE TRIMMER

The latest engineering achievement for solving that most difficult production operation—*edge finishing*.



POWER STRAP CUTTER

The most economical machine available for any operation in which slitting is required.



LOCK-STITCH SEWING MACHINE

Used throughout the world for heavy duty sewing of leather and similar materials.

Randall Engineers are always ready to design special machines to handle unusual production jobs.